IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of: EDWARDS et al. Serial No.: 09/247,893 Filed: February 10, 1999 Atty. File No.: 4366-33 For: "DYNAMICALLY ALLOCATING SERVER RESOURCES TO COMPETING CLASSES OF WORK BASED UPON ACHIEVEMENT OF Group Art Unit: 2642

Examiner: WILLIAM J. DEANE, JR.

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER: EV368037276US DATE OF DEPOSIT: 4/22/04

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" SERVICE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.10 ON THE DATE INDICATED ABOVE AND IS ADDRESSED TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

TYPED OR PRINTED NAME

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313

SERVICE GOALS"

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APR 2 9 2004

Dear Sir:

Technology Center 2600

Prior to the initial review of the above-identified patent application by the Examiner, please enter the following Preliminary Amendment. Although Applicants do not believe that any fees are due based upon the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge any such fees to Deposit Account 19-1970.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 21 of this paper.